

OK SPA 19-0037 Pharmacy Dispensing Fee Rate Increase

08/20/2019	Mary Staples for NACDS	The National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) strongly supports the Oklahoma Health Care Authority's ("OHCA") adjustments to the fee-for-service (FFS) professional dispensing fee paid to pharmacy providers for outpatient drugs dispensed to Medicaid beneficiaries. NACDS appreciates OHCA's reconsideration of the professional dispensing fee. We believe that adjusting the professional dispensing fee not only recognizes that pharmacy providers should be reimbursed adequately for their professional services, but also emphasizes the necessity that Medicaid pharmacies are reimbursed in a manner that is fair, adequate, and consistent with a cost-based reimbursement methodology as required by the Covered Outpatient Drugs Final Rule (Final Rule). NACDS is strongly committed to preserving Medicaid beneficiary access to their needed medications and the ability of our members to provide services to this important population. However, we also understand the level and complexity of changes that are required for states to fully accommodate the requirements of the Final Rule. To that end, we applaud
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		OHCA increasing the professional dispensing fee by to \$11.41. We believe that with this adjustment and proper implementation, cost-based reimbursement methodologies will result in fair and adequate payment levels that reflect the cost of providing needed healthcare services to Medicaid beneficiaries. We thank you for the opportunity to comment on the on this very important issue. Mary Staples NACDS mstaples@nacds.org
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